



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 30 August 2005

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- WCPO reports a chemical leaking from a train car near Lunken Airport in Cincinnati forced evacuations, shelters-in-place, and left an odor hanging in the air over much of the Cincinnati area. (See item [5](#))
- USA TODAY reports tens of thousands of air travelers nationwide will see delays and cancellations as powerful Hurricane Katrina strikes the Louisiana coast. (See item [8](#))
- The Transportation Security Administration and the U.S. Coast Guard in partnership with Golden Gate Ferry have started testing advanced explosives detection technology as part of the Secure Automated Inspection Lanes project. (See item [10](#))
- President Bush has authorized emergency assistance for states of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, opening up FEMA's ability to assist state and local governments in saving lives and property from the impact of Hurricane Katrina. (See item [27](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

August 29, Reuters — **Hurricane Katrina knocks power out along Gulf Coast.** More than 670,000 electricity customers in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida were without power as of noon on Monday, August 29, as Hurricane Katrina pounded the Gulf Coast. Power company Entergy shut at least two power plants on the Mississippi River near New Orleans, including the 1,089-megawatt Waterford three nuclear reactor in St. Charles Parish and the 825-megawatt Michoud natural gas and oil fired station in Orleans Parish, to avoid damage from the hurricane force winds and flooding. In addition, Entergy was monitoring the storm from two other nuclear stations along the Mississippi River — River Bend in Louisiana and Grand Gulf in Mississippi. Officials at Entergy and power company Southern Co. noted the storm was still battering their service territories and outages would continue to grow. The utilities will not be able to start assessing and repairing the damage until after the hurricane moves through. In Florida, FPL Group Inc.'s Florida Power and Light subsidiary was still working to restore power and said in a release it expects to restore power to 90 percent of the 1.45 million customers left without service by the evening of Tuesday, August 30.

Source: http://today.reuters.com/investing/financeArticle.aspx?type=bondsNews&storyID=URI:urn:newsml:reuters.com:20050829:MTFH68199_2005-08-29_16-53-02_N29210607:1

2. *August 29, Associated Press* — **Apache Corp. began shutting in Gulf production before storm.** Independent oil and gas company Apache Corp. said Monday, August 29, it began shutting in production in portions of the Gulf of Mexico Saturday, August 27, in advance of Hurricane Katrina. Currently, the company has shut-in gross operated volumes of about 70,000 barrels of oil and 565 million cubic feet of gas per day in the Gulf of Mexico and onshore Louisiana. A total of 336 of Apache's 386 structures in the Gulf of Mexico are shut in and the storm is now affecting onshore facilities. The company declined to speculate on damage or a timetable for restoring production.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/050829/apache_katrina.html?.v=1

3. *August 29, Associated Press* — **OPEC may hike production next month.** The president of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) said on Monday, August 29, he will propose that the group of oil producing states increase its production by 500,000 barrels a day next month. "I will try, as the president, to propose the issue of increasing the production and the output ceiling at our coming meeting" on September 19, said Sheik Ahmed Fahd Al Ahmed Al Sabah, who is also Kuwait's energy minister. He said he wants to boost actual production by 500,000 barrels a day above what OPEC currently supplies to the market. Past increases in OPEC's official output ceiling have usually failed to impress the market as the group is known to produce above that limit. Sheik Ahmed said OPEC was concerned about the soaring oil price, but he blamed it on factors beyond the group's control. "We are trying to do everything to stabilize the prices. It looks like the prices are not related to the production anymore. They are related to other factors, like geopolitics, the weather, the refining," he said. Sheik Ahmed said most of the extra crude would come from Saudi Arabia.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/business/AP-Kuwait-OPEC.html>

4. *August 29, Electric Light & Power* — **Study reveals concerns about utility industry security breaches.** Trusted Network Technologies, Inc. (TNT), a developer of identity audit and control solutions, on Monday, August 29, issued the results of a utility industry survey. The survey indicates that one-third of IT executives believe that a portion of a utility's supervisory control

and data acquisition (SCADA), or energy distribution systems, will be attacked or compromised in the next two years. Furthermore, 20 percent say that their SCADA systems have already been subjected to outside threats. "These findings highlight the risks utilities face," said Rob Ciampa, TNT's vice president of marketing and business strategy. "Terrorists, hackers and even internal saboteurs present a constant threat to utilities that could disrupt plant operations and the distribution of power to users. A uniform set of security standards combined with continued IT education regarding network access control will play a critical role in ensuring a secure, reliable energy supply." The Energy Policy Act of 2005 calls for an electric reliability organization to set standards that will ensure the continued reliability of the interconnected electric transmission grid in North America. The North American Reliability Council is now working closely with government and industry to implement the reliability provisions of the new law.

Survey information: <http://www.trustednetworktech.com/documents/utisurveyannouncement8.24.05.pdf>

Source: http://uaelp.pennnet.com/Articles/Article_Display.cfm?ARTICLE_ID=235593&p=22

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

5. *August 29, WCPO (OH)* — **Chemical leak in Ohio prompts mandatory evacuations.** A chemical leaking from a train car near Lunken Airport in Cincinnati, OH, forced evacuations, "shelters-in-place" and left an odor hanging in the air over much of the Cincinnati area. The tanker car, which caught fire Sunday night, August 28, had been parked along the tracks for about nine months. Police said a chemical inhibitor that had been in place to control the release of the styrene gas had broken down after four months. Warnings were put in place Sunday night, then lifted, but the tanker flared up again Monday morning, August 29, forcing emergency officials to put the cautionary measures back into effect. Crews were spraying water on the train tanker, trying to keep it cool in order to prevent more of the chemical from leaking. Two police officers were treated at a local hospital Monday morning for exposure to the chemicals. The mandatory evacuation area consisted of one square mile from Delta Avenue, east to Lunken Airport, and from Linwood Avenue south to the Ohio River. The "shelter in place" areas consisted of Fort Thomas, KY, Mt. Lookout, Hyde Park, O'Byronville, Mt. Washington and Columbia-Tusculum. Three local schools were also closed due to the leak. Source: <http://wcpo.com/news/2005/local/08/29/leak.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

6.

August 26, Pacific Business News — **Banks flooding investigators with suspicious activities reports.** Some experts are worried that banks are becoming so cautious, and so suspicious, that they are burying investigators in an avalanche of worthless tips, as well as infringing on the privacy rights of customers when filing suspicious activity reports to the U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), which collects and analyzes the reports then passes on serious leads to the FBI. "While the volume of filings alone may not reveal a problem, it fuels our concern that financial institutions are becoming increasingly convinced that the key to avoiding regulatory and criminal scrutiny under the Bank Secrecy Act is to file more reports, regardless of whether the conduct or transaction identified is suspicious," said William J. Fox, director of FinCEN. "These 'defensive filings' populate our database with reports that have little value, degrade the valuable reports in the database and implicate privacy concerns," he said. "Suspicious activity" is a broad term that includes the well-known requirement that banks report transactions of \$10,000 or more. Much of the suspicious activity in Hawaii, for example, involves "structuring," which is when a customer, for example, makes two \$5,000 withdrawals at different banks. However, other activities are less obvious, requiring subjective judgments by bank employees.

Source: http://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2005/08/29/story5.html?from_rss=1

7. *August 26, The Phoenix Business Journal* — **Identity thieves targeting online résumé posters.** Scam artists and identity thieves are finding fertile ground for potential victims of their nefarious plots — résumé-posting employment Websites. The Internet offers job seekers a plethora of Websites where they can post résumés and apply for positions as they climb the career ladder. Those sites also offer personal information, addresses and work histories that are the golden ticket for scam artists and identity theft rings. The concern is especially high in Arizona, which ranks first in the nation in per capita identity theft crimes, and is home to more than 500,000 illegal immigrants, who, in some cases, use false documents and fake Social Security numbers. "What identity thieves are after is a profile, and a profile includes a home address, your birth date and your Social Security number," said David Barton, a partner with Phoenix law firm Quarles & Brady Streich Lang. In some instances, identity thieves and illegal immigrant workers will establish fake identifications by using bits and pieces of various individuals' personal data. For example, an undocumented worker may use another person's Social Security number while maintaining his own name and home address. Identity theft rings will use a hodge-podge of an individuals' personal data to establish credit card accounts.

Source: http://www.bizjournals.com/phoenix/stories/2005/08/29/story4.html?from_rss=1

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

8. *August 29, USA TODAY* — **Thousands face delays as Hurricane Katrina hits Gulf Coast.** Tens of thousands of air travelers nationwide are expected to see delays and cancellations as powerful Hurricane Katrina bears down on the Louisiana coast. Flights have been suspended at four airports — New Orleans; Baton Rouge, LA; Gulfport-Biloxi, MS; Pensacola, FL; Mobile, AL; and Fort Walton Beach, FL — and major disruptions are likely on Monday, August 29, at more than a dozen airports in the path of the storm. And at Dallas/Fort Worth and Houston Bush Intercontinental — both major hub airports — delays are likely to become numerous as Katrina blocks flight paths to the East of those cities. With so many large hubs and other

airports affected by the storm, flights could be delayed or canceled even in parts of the country far out of Katrina's reach. By Wednesday, what's left of Katrina is expected to bring torrential rains and high winds to the Ohio Valley — meaning problems at major Midwestern airports like Cincinnati, Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Indianapolis. Flights at Chicago O'Hare and Chicago Midway could also be thrown into the mix by mid-week, especially if flight paths across the Great Lakes region are hindered by the storm.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2005-08-29-katrina-de-lays_x.htm

9. *August 29, Associated Press* — Northwest to seek new concessions from pilots, union says.

Union pilots at Northwest Airlines are getting ready for a second round of bargaining and expect management to demand \$322 million in new concessions, a union official says. The cuts would come on top of a 15% pay reduction the pilots accepted in December, said Mark McClain, chairman of the Northwest branch of the Air Line Pilots Association. A strike by Northwest mechanics, custodians and cleaners — who are refusing concessions that would save the airline \$176 million a year — entered its 10th day Monday, August 29. Northwest, which operates hubs in Detroit, Minneapolis and Memphis, has proposed cutting pilot pay by an additional 22.3 percent and reducing the pilot work force by up to 1,181, the Star Tribune newspaper said Monday. Northwest has about 5,200 active pilots and more than 500 pilots on furlough. Northwest has been losing about \$4 million per day and is weighed down by about \$8 billion in long-term debt. The Professional Flight Attendants Association returns to the bargaining table Tuesday, August 30, and its members are being asked for \$143 million in concessions. Northwest says it wants to cut their pay by an average of 20%.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2005-08-29-nwa-pilots_x.htm

10. *August 29, Transportation Security Administration* — Advanced explosives detection technology to be tested.

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the U.S. Coast Guard in partnership with Golden Gate Ferry started testing advanced explosives detection technology on Monday, August 29, as part of the Secure Automated Inspection Lanes (SAIL) project. The 30-day pilot program will conduct explosives screening on passengers boarding ferries at the Golden Gate Ferry terminals in Larkspur, CA, and will move to the San Francisco terminal in September. SAIL's purpose is to test the feasibility of using new technologies while maintaining efficient passenger screening systems for high volume commuter ferries. The SAIL pilot program uses document scanners and other explosives detection equipment to screen passengers. The tests will be conducted Monday through Friday, starting with off-peak departures, and expanding to include commuter trips during rush hour. Prior to boarding, passengers will be handed a card that explains the program and can capture explosive material. The card will be handed back to a TSA screener who will scan the card and analyze it for explosive material using the detection equipment. If the card shows the presence of explosive material, the passenger will undergo secondary screening.

Source: http://www.tsa.gov/public/display?theme=44&content=090005198_0161a71

11. *August 29, Agence France-Presse* — Japan airport briefly closed after bomb threat.

An airport in northern Japan was closed for more than an hour Monday, August 29, after an anonymous caller warned of a bomb on a flight but no explosives were found, officials said. The airport in Sendai, 185 miles north of Tokyo, shut down operations after the telephone warning of a bomb on a Japan Airlines flight bound for the northern island of Hokkaido. The 54 people onboard the Boeing 737 jet were ushered out before the plane was to take off, an airport

official said. Japan has tightened security after the July 7 bombings in London.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2005-08-29-japan-airport_x.htm

12. *August 29, Associated Press* — **France, Belgium publish blacklist of air carriers banned from their airports.** France and Belgium have issued blacklists of airlines prohibited from using their airports, an attempt to allay public fears about flying after a recent series of deadly crashes. Swiss civil aviation officials also said they plan to release a similar list Thursday. Proposals for a European blacklist are still being prepared, prompting individual countries to take action in the meantime. The French list released late Sunday, August 28, lists Air Koryo of North Korea; Air St. Thomas of the U.S. Virgin Islands; International Air Services of Liberia; Thailand's Phuket Airlines; and Linhas Aereas de Mocambique and Transairways, both from Mozambique. Belgium's list released Monday, August 29, is Africa Lines of the Central African Republic; Air Memphis from Egypt; Air Van Airlines of Armenia; Central Air Express from Congo; Libya's ICTTPW; International Air Tours Limited from Nigeria; Johnsons Air Limited of Ghana; Silverback Cargo Freighters from Rwanda; and South Airlines of Ukraine. Source: http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/html/nationworld/2002455736_webairblacklist29.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

13. *August 29, Memphis Business Journal* — **UPS deploys new customs security technology.** United Parcel Service Inc. (UPS) is using a processing system developed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection that will better communicate information about packages entering the U.S., improving security at the nation's borders while speeding up inspections of packages. UPS says it is among the early adopters of the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), which is the result of an effort by the CBP to modernize the flow of information about packages approaching U.S. borders in trucks. The system automates information about packages, making it easier for customs agents to decide what they wish to inspect. UPS tested the program at a land port in Blaine, WA. Under the new system, UPS trucks will provide an electronic manifest for packages they are transporting, allowing the CBP to quickly verify the legitimacy of the vehicle and run the shipping data through electronic filters to make inspection selections. And this can all be done before the shipmen even reaches the border. Goods not selected for inspection can be expedited across the border. The old system was a paper-based process. The ACE system will be deployed to every land, sea and air port of entry where CBP has a presence over the next five years. Source: <http://memphis.bizjournals.com/memphis/stories/2005/08/29/day3.html>

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Agriculture Sector

14. *August 29, Indiana Ag Connection* — **Indiana confirms new emerald ash borer site.** The emerald ash borer (EAB), an exotic species of beetle that destroys ash trees, was recently confirmed at an additional location in LaGrange. As a result of the discovery, the Indiana

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has extended the quarantine for most ash products to include Lima Township. Clay and VanBuren townships were placed under the quarantine in 2004; Newbury Township was quarantined earlier this year. The DNR found live EAB larvae on an ash tree at a campground near Howe in Lima Township. Robert Waltz, state entomologist, said the quarantine forbids transportation of ash trees and most ash tree products out of the township. This includes nursery stock, logs or untreated lumber with the bark attached, and any composted or uncomposted ash chips or bark chips that are one inch or larger. In keeping with the federal eradication program for emerald ash borer, all ash trees within a half-mile radius of the infestation will be removed.

Multi-state emerald ash borer Website: <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>

Source: <http://www.indianaagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=510&yr=2005>

15. *August 29, Associated Press* — **Study: Chronic wasting disease hits bucks more than female deer.** A study by Colorado state biologists shows that chronic wasting disease (CWD) in northern Colorado strikes male deer at least twice as often as females in the same age groups. The reason may be that males roam between herds looking for mates, said state Division of Wildlife veterinarian Mike Miller, who co-authored the study. The study found that bucks between three and seven years old were 2.4 times more likely to be infected than does of the same age. Bucks five to seven years old were 3.8 times more likely to be infected than does of the same age. The disease appeared to peak in five to six year-old bucks and then sharply decline, an indication that the disease is fatal, Miller said. CWD, a brain ailment that strikes deer and elk, is in the same family as mad cow disease.

Research abstract: <http://www.jwildlifedis.org/cgi/content/abstract/41/2/275>

Source: http://rockymountainnews.com/drmn/state/article/0,1299,DRMN_21_4037663.00.html

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Food Sector

16. *August 23, Institute of Food Research (United Kingdom)* — **New science unlocks secrets of salmonella success.** The ability of Salmonella bacteria to act quickly, both on an evolutionary timescale and during the early minutes of infection, has been investigated in detail for the first time. Institute of Food Research (IFR) Scientists found that Salmonella can evolve at a surprisingly rapid rate by jettisoning superfluous DNA. One hundred million years ago Salmonella evolved from E. coli bacteria that lived freely in the environment. Salmonella developed the ability to parasitize animals by losing many genes and gaining new ones from other bacteria. Using DNA microarrays to analyse the results of “experimental evolution,” the scientists tracked Salmonella in real time over 6,750 generations to make the first estimation of the rate of gene loss for any bacterium. Project leader Dan Andersson says, “Nearly one quarter of the bacteria’s genes could be lost in only 50,000 years. This was a surprise to us as it had been thought this process would take many millions of years.” In separate research, IFR scientist Jay Hinton investigated the response of Salmonella to body temperature. Researchers discovered the thermal switch, a protein called H-NS, and found that it allows 532 genes to be activated within minutes.

Source: <http://www.ifr.ac.uk/Media/NewsReleases/pathogen.html>

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Water Sector

17. *August 28, Morning Call (PA)* — **Contaminated water spilled into Delaware River.** Working around the clock, PPL Corp. employees stopped a flow of contaminated water into the Delaware River Saturday, August 27. The leak, detected Tuesday, August 23, spilled an estimated 60 million gallons of water from PPL's Martins Creek fly ash basin before being plugged Saturday. It's unclear what effect the ash-contaminated water will have on the river or the roads and PPL-owned farm fields near the Mount Bethel, PA, power plant that received the mixture when manholes overflowed. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection resumed its work assessing the spill's potential impact over the weekend, said department spokesperson Mark Carmon. Easton's water treatment plant imposed mandatory water-use restrictions. The fly ash is the unburned mineral portion of the coal burned at the Martins Creek coal-fired power unit. The leak started when one or more of the wooden stop logs used to regulate the flow of water into the river apparently failed, Lewis said. The stop logs, which are piled on top of one another, act as a dam for the basin. Because ash is heavier than water, it settles at the bottom of the basin and the surface water meets the levels for which PPL has the required environmental permits, Lewis said.

Source: http://www.mcall.com/news/local/all-3ashbasinaug28.0.4152958_story?coll=all-newslocal-hed

18. *August 28, Time Magazine* — **Las Vegas seeks new water sources.** As one of the fastest-growing population centers in the country, Las Vegas, NV, has great need for water. Every month 5,000 to 7,000 newcomers arrive, meaning the population could double in 20 to 30 years. Though water-conservation measures have reduced the city's annual consumption, they cannot contain such explosive growth. So Las Vegas has gone looking for its water farther from home. The city started to move last year on earlier filings for groundwater rights in Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine counties, setting off a water war that could be repeated across the Southwest. Let the Las Vegas have their way, other Nevadans warn, and you could upset a complex web of aquifers that run as far away as California's Death Valley and western Utah, where Snake Valley partly lies. That could do irreversible damage to plant, wildlife and human populations all sipping from the same limited supply. For every desert population center, there is a similarly limited supply of water and a similar potential for political warfare. That Las Vegas has real water woes can't be denied. The city exceeded the capacity of its own groundwater field several decades ago, and currently is 90 percent dependent on a limited allotment from the Colorado River — an allotment it's fast outgrowing. That is what has driven the city to petition for water rights in the outlying counties.

Source: <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1098962-1,0,0.html>

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Public Health Sector

19. *August 29, News 24 (South Africa)* — **Sleeping sickness spreading in Uganda.** A five-year-old effort to curb sleeping sickness in part of southern Uganda has failed, and the epidemic has now spread to other districts. Sleeping sickness, a potentially fatal disease if not

tackled in its early stages, is caused by the Trypanosoma parasite, transmitted from cattle to humans by the blood-sucking tsetse fly. In 2000, the authorities in Soroti district, southern Uganda, launched a control program, dosing cattle with long-acting drugs to kill the parasite, after tests showed that as much as 18 percent of local herds were carrying the parasite. But the latest numbers, based on blood tests carried out in the area in April 2004, show that the main parasite strain is present in 22 percent of local cattle — and similar infection rates occur among cattle in three villages just outside the intervention area. In addition, infections have been reported in the district of Kaberamaido, potentially putting another 133,000 people at risk, and in the southern part of Lira district. A special worry is that the spreading epidemic could eventually overlap with another epidemic of sleeping sickness which is unfolding in Uganda's northwest and in southern Sudan. The two epidemics are caused by different parasites that need different diagnostic tools and drugs, so an overlap would greatly add to treatment costs.

African Trypanosomiasis information: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs259/en/>

Source: http://www.news24.com/News24/Africa/News/0..2-11-1447_176023_3.00.html

20. *August 29, Interfax (Russia)* — **Bird flu reported in another Omsk region district.** The Russian Veterinary and Phyto-Sanitary Oversight Service said bird flu has been reported in another district of the Omsk region. Two further villages in the Novosibirsk region also reported suspected bird flu cases as of Monday, August 29, the Russian Agriculture Ministry said. By August 29, bird flu cases have been confirmed in 46 populated areas, and 80 others are under investigation, as compared to 45 and 78 by August 26 respectively.

Source: http://www.interfax.ru/e/B/politics/28.html?id_issue=1136895_9

21. *August 28, Nature* — **Blood test detects deadly prions.** For years, experts have feared that thousands of people are unknowingly carrying and transmitting the human form of mad cow disease: new-variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD). Now a blood test could help to ease their worries, or confirm their worst nightmare. Researchers have succeeded in reliably detecting the malformed proteins (prions) that cause vCJD in blood samples taken from hamsters. Their test takes only a few days to complete. If the procedure works as well in humans, it could be used to check stocks in blood banks. At the moment there is no such screening process; two of the people who have died of vCJD in Great Britain are thought to have picked up the disease from transfusions. Prions concentrate in the brain, making it hugely challenging to detect the few that circulate in the blood. To find out whether an animal is infected with the disease, experts must kill it to obtain brain tissue for tests.

vCJD information: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/vcjd/index.htm>

Source: <http://www.nature.com/news/2005/050822/full/050822-11.html>

22. *August 28, Washington Post* — **U.S. to triple airport quarantine stations.** The federal government plans to more than triple the number of quarantine stations at airports around the country and hire scores of health officers as part of a broad plan to try to stop deadly infectious diseases from entering the U.S. Ten new stations, at airports stretching from Alaska to Puerto Rico, are already open or nearing completion, and about 50 new health officers are undergoing training. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention plans to build an additional seven stations as soon as it can get the money. Eight stations that have existed for years are gaining staff, so that when the plan is complete, the country will be blanketed by a network of 25 centers designed as a first-line of defense against a global disease pandemic. If a global pandemic looms, the plan calls for the centers to play a key role in setting up a firebreak that

would try to keep the disease out of the U.S. The stations would help coordinate broad programs under which thousands of air travelers might be subject to medical evaluation, or offered medical pamphlets and advice, before being allowed to enter the country. Eventually the centers will include examination rooms that will allow health officers to isolate and evaluate a few ill passengers at a time.

Division of Global Migration and Quarantine: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dq/>

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/08/27/AR2005082700958.html?sub=AR>

23. *August 27, Independent (United Kingdom)* — **Superbug hits 44,000 elderly patients.** Record numbers of elderly people fell victim last year to a potentially lethal superbug which is plaguing Britain's hospitals, according to details of the first complete survey of the disease. Concerns about the bug, *Clostridium difficile*, were first revealed in *The Independent* in June following an outbreak of a lethal strain at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. The figures released Friday, August 26, showed that there were 44,488 cases of the bug among people over 65. The first published since reporting outbreaks became compulsory, the statistics show that the scale of the problem is greater than previously thought. A voluntary reporting scheme showed there were 35,536 cases of infection in 2003. Cases in Britain had risen from about 1,000 in the early 1990s to more than 20,000 by 2000 and caused the death of nearly 1,000 people in 2003. *C. difficile*, which causes severe diarrhea, has been spreading across National Health System (NHS) sites. Twelve people died during an outbreak of a lethal strain at Stoke Mandeville, which infected more than 300 patients. An outbreak at the Royal Devon and Exeter Foundation NHS Trust has caused 23 deaths since January this year.

C. difficile information: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/gastro/ClostridiumDifficile.htm>

Source: http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/health_medical/article308358.ece

24. *August 25, Maryville Daily Forum (MO)* — **Bioterrorism drill to be held in Maryville.**

Maryville is one of two communities selected by the State of Missouri this summer to host a state-sanctioned bioterrorism drill. The Nodaway County Health Department and St. Francis Hospital and Health Services, Maryville, are participating in the joint emergency response Strategic National Stockpile exercise on Tuesday, August 30. The agencies are working closely with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and the Missouri Hospital Association to test plans for the dispensing of medications in the event of a large-scale public health emergency or terrorist attack. The federal government established the Strategic National Stockpile program to deliver large and continuous quantities of medical items to the site of a national emergency within 12 hours. Maryville and St. Louis were selected to host the emergency response drills. The St. Louis area drill was held June 15. The exercise will provide health workers with firsthand, practical experience with picking up the medications and dispensing medications to their area residents.

Source: <http://www.maryvilledailyforum.com/articles/2005/08/25/news/news1.txt>

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Government Sector

25. *August 29, GovExec* — **Hurricane Katrina shuts down federal government in New Orleans.** The federal government in New Orleans officially closed Monday, August 29, as

Hurricane Katrina slammed into the city. All government operations are closed in New Orleans and affected surrounding areas as a result of the hurricane, a spokesperson for the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) said Monday. OPM officials will make further announcements about agencies' operating status after the storm passes. OPM "is extremely concerned about the health and safety of individuals whose lives may be affected by Hurricane Katrina," said agency director Linda M. Springer in a statement issued Monday. Springer referred agencies to an OPM memo issued earlier this year on human resources flexibilities available to assist employees affected by severe weather emergencies and natural disasters. Those flexibilities include excused absences for employees who assist in emergency law enforcement, relief, or clean-up efforts and premium pay for employees performing emergency overtime work. On Sunday, August 28, President Bush declared emergencies in parts of Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, and Alabama, making federal disaster aid available immediately as the storms hit.

OPM memo: <http://www.opm.gov/oca/compmemo/2005/2005-13.asp>

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=32110&dcn=to.daysnews

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Emergency Services Sector

26. *August 29, St. Cloud Times (MN)* — **Nuclear plant plans emergency drill in Minnesota.** A full-scale emergency drill is being conducted Monday, August 29, through Wednesday, August 31, at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant in Monticello, MN. The drill involves officials from the state, Wright and Sherburne counties, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Nuclear Management Company and Xcel Energy. The exercise will test the capabilities of the agencies to protect residents in the event of an incident at the Monticello plant. FEMA requires every nuclear plant to conduct such an exercise annually. There will be a public briefing on the results of the exercise at 11 a.m. Friday, September 2.

Source: <http://miva.sctimes.com/miva/cgi-bin/miva?Web/page.mv+1+loc+1+592411>

27. *August 29, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **Federal Emergency Management Agency moves federal resources to assist Hurricane Katrina victims.** President Bush has authorized emergency assistance for states of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama opening up the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) ability to move into the state with federal resources to assist the state and local governments with mobilizing resources and preparations to save lives and property from the impact of Hurricane Katrina. The President has also authorized a declaration for public assistance for the southern tip of Florida in response to Hurricane Katrina's first landfall on Friday, August 26. FEMA is moving federal response teams as well as supplies of generators, water, ice and food and other emergency commodities into the region for immediate deployment once the storm passes to any of the Gulf Coast states impacted and in need. As of Monday, August 29, Hurricane Katrina was initially a Category 4 storm.

Source: <http://home.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=18461>

28. *August 27, The Virgin Islands Daily News* — **Virgin Islands assembling its first-ever Hazmat team.** Nearly three dozen firefighters, emergency responders and rescue personnel from the Virgin Islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John donned protective suits and

assembled decontamination showers Friday, August 26, rushing to handle a mock spill in the back yard of the St. Croix Rescue Academy. The latest in a series of hazardous materials training sessions held in the territory, the drill solidified more than a week of work for the emergency workers as the Virgin Islands works to assemble its first-ever Hazmat team. Two other groups have already passed through this level of training and have gone on to more advanced training in Alabama, New Mexico and Nevada. Instructor Scott Warden of the American Emergency Response Training and partner Scott Roberts led the weeklong training, which taught participants how to control leaks, stop spills and decontaminate the responders who have dealt with the hazardous materials. Friday's drill simulated a spill, and participants worked to identify it, control it, secure the area and decontaminate the responders. Emergency workers from Fire Services, St. Croix and St. Thomas Rescue, the Department of Planning and Natural Resources and Emergency Medical Services participated in the drill and training. Source: http://www.virginislandsdailynews.com/index.pl/article_home?id=7981644

29. *August 26, Mansfield News (MA)* — **Venture Crew #911 receives emergency response training.** Venture Crew #911 recently received training in the new Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) certification course, in conjunction with the Mansfield, MA, Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). Venture Crew #911 is a co-ed high adventure program, sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America, for boys and girls ages 14–21. The CERT program is designed to help communities prepare for effective disaster response through training and planning. The course was administered over several weeks. During the course of the program, the crew members learned how to properly respond to first aid emergencies, perform adult/child/infant CPR, respond to terrorism, learned disaster preparedness, fire safety, disaster medical operations, search and rescue, disaster psychology, and CERT documentation. Several instructors were brought in to teach elements of the course, such as fire safety and terrorism. As a final exam to the course, the crew underwent a disaster drill. The drill consisted of a gas "burst" where buildings were damaged and victims were trapped. The Medical Search and Rescue Team responded first to the fire, and to the lost victims. The Triage Team used their knowledge to treat victims appropriately, including tagging, bandaging, and bracing victims, and getting victims ready for transporting. Source: <http://www2.townonline.com/mansfield/artsLifestyle/view.bg?articleid=313412&format=text>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

30. *August 25, Securiteam* — **Home Ftp Server multiple vulnerabilities.** Lack of proper root directory jailing, and lack of proper default configuration allow attackers to obtain user name and files, and to download to see and download any files on the system. Home Ftp Server version 1.0.7 b45 is vulnerable. No fix is currently available. Source: <http://www.securiteam.com/windowsntfocus/5GP0P1FGKA.html>
31. *August 25, Securiteam* — **Operator Shell buffer overflow.** Lack of proper length validation allow attackers to cause buffer overflows with Operator Shell (osh) and execute arbitrary code with root privileges. osh version 1.7 and prior are vulnerable. No fix is currently known. Source: <http://www.securiteam.com/unixfocus/5EP0N1FGKW.html>

32. *August 25, IDG News Service* — **New Microsoft Messenger worm works in multiple languages.** Users of Microsoft's MSN Messenger should be aware of a new "smart" worm that checks the configuration of their Windows client and sends a message in the appropriate language, according to security companies Akonix Systems and Symantec. The Kelvir.HI worm, a variant of the Kelvir IM malware that surfaced earlier this year, appears to be the first instant-message bug capable of checking systems settings and communicating in the victim's native tongue. When the worm penetrates a system, it sends a message in one of several languages, including Dutch, English, French, German and Greek as well as Portuguese, Swedish, Spanish and Turkish. The message in English is: "haha i found your picture!" If a user clicks on a link included with the message, a copy of the W32.Spyboot worm is automatically downloaded to their computer. Spyboot is a backdoor program that can, among other things, close security applications and help further spread the worm. The Kelvir.HI worm affects computers running Windows 2000, Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows Me, Windows NT, Windows Server 2003 and Windows XP, according to a Symantec advisory.
Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2005/082505-msn-messenger-worm.html?fsrc=rss-security>
33. *August 23, Leapware* — **Buffer overflow in LeapFTP.** A buffer overflow vulnerability has been identified that may allow arbitrary code to be executed with the privileges of the user running LeapFTP. This occurs when a specially modified LeapFTP Site Queue file (.lsq) is opened by LeapFTP. The filetype is registered with Windows by LeapFTP. As a result, the file may be opened by LeapFTP when it is double-clicked. If a malicious individual is able to modify a .lsq and cause it to be opened by LeapFTP, malicious code execution may result. Users should upgrade their LeapFTP client to version 2.7.6.
Source: <http://www.securiteam.com/windowsntfocus/5FP001FGKA.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: A number of new vulnerabilities and exploits were reported in the last 72 hours. Recommend Administrators review those listed below and take appropriate action to preclude exploitation.

US-CERT has learned that a new version of Download Trojan Horse, posing as a Microsoft update for MS05-039 (currently being exploited by Zotob) is attempting to take advantage of the scare to get loaded on systems (see Malicious Activity below).

A flaw in the way Windows handles entries in the registry can be used by hackers to hide evidence of malicious code from a wide swath of commercial anti-virus and anti-spyware scanners.

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	1026 (----), 6881 (bittorrent), 445 (microsoft-ds), 135 (epmap), 139 (netbios-ssn), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 4004 (pxc-roid), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 53 (domain), 25 (smtp)
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Source: <http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html>; Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

34. *August 29, Times Herald (PA)* — Students under surveillance at Pennsylvania high school.

Privacy is not an issue at the Delaware Valley High School in Westfall Township, PA, this year. Not only has the high school been equipped with two dozen new digital cameras this year, but it looks like officials are about to approve a policy that would allow a drug-sniffing dog to go over lockers and cars parked in student parking lots. The cameras, which cost \$200,000 to install, cover the majority of common areas, including the cafeteria, the gymnasium and the halls. Several also have been placed outside the buildings on the Westfall campus to keep an eye on would-be mischief makers.

Source: <http://www.recordonline.com/archive/2005/08/29/jgdelawa.htm>

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General Sector

35. *August 30, Reuters* — Hurricane Katrina slams U.S. Gulf Coast. Hurricane Katrina ripped into the Gulf Coast on Monday, August 29, stranding people on rooftops as it pummelled New Orleans, LA, with 100 mph winds and swamped Mississippi resort towns and lowlands with a crushing surge of seawater. An oil drilling rig broke free of its mooring in Mobile Bay, AL, and slammed into a bridge. At least two rigs were adrift in the Gulf of Mexico, where Katrina raged through key offshore oil and gas fields as one of the strongest hurricanes on record. Katrina, which hit the coast as a Category 4 storm on the five-stage Saffir-Simpson hurricane scale, could become the most expensive storm in U.S. history, costing insurers up to \$26 billion, risk analysts said. By 10 p.m. CDT, Katrina had deteriorated into a tropical storm centred over northeast Mississippi near the Alabama state line, steaming north-northeast. It still packed heavy rains and 60 mph winds, just below hurricane strength. In Mississippi, the storm swept boats onto coastal highways and swamped waterfront gambling halls. Damage on the Mississippi waterfront was catastrophic, with several Biloxi landmarks reported destroyed.

Source: http://today.reuters.co.uk/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=topNews&storyID=2005-08-30T032850Z_01_ROB586049_RTRUKOC_0_UK-WEATHER-KATRINA.xml

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Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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